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Bangalore Mirror

TEMP Max 25 | Min 20 | Humidity 93% Partly cloudy sky with possibility of rain Sensex 52,792 | Nifty 15,809 | Gold 50,510 | Silver 65,000 | Dollar 77.72 | Euro 82.04 | GBP 96.35

THE GRUDGE

CITY PAGE 2

How to score 100% in SSLC exam watching horror series

A DARK PLACE

CITY PAGE 5

Complainant alleges inaction on hate speech in city

Unscientific planting of saplings overlooking 'biotic and abiotic' factors may jeopardise safety in public spaces, experts warn

KIND OF GREEN

'100 saplings planted in DVG Road, Basavanagudi, not suitable'

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TWEETS @BangaloreMIRROR

It may not be an exaggeration to note the saplings chosen and planted on DVG Road are an example of negligence and perfunctory attitude of the Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike's (BBMP) forest department.

When non-governmental organisations, resident welfare associations and members of political outfits plant saplings anywhere, the BBMP forest department officials do not think it is necessary to step out of their official chambers and go to the spot to direct the eager green thumbs on which sapling to plant at a specific location.

Guiding citizens on suitable saplings, though, just happens to be a key responsibility of the department.

Around 100 saplings have been planted on DVG Road near Gandhi Bazaar in Basavanagudi assembly constituency — most of which are not suitable for urban areas. Saplings planted on either side of the road would provide good canopy; but experts said these saplings when fully grown into trees would pose danger to the adjacent buildings.

"It seems the BBMP forest department was in a terrible hurry to make money by planting saplings without verifying if these were suitable for planting on narrow roads. I found a few well-grown peepal saplings which will become a danger to adjacent buildings and structures," said Sai Datta, a social activist.

Environmentalists and residents are not happy with the BBMP forest department for allowing the planting of such varieties of saplings here. "The department should encourage people to plant avalanda, champaka, honge or Indian beech and neem saplings instead of planting saplings that

CONTINUED ON PAGE 7 »

> **"Peepal, banyan and neralu saplings are known for fast growth; their roots would damage nearby buildings.**
> —Balaji Raghothaman, environmentalist

Rolling Stones in Church Street

Cobblestones coming apart in 750-metre stretch renovated 4 years ago at a cost of Rs 9 cr

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TWEETS @BangaloreMIRROR

Despite Chief Minister Basavaraj Bommai's stern orders to repair and restore Bengaluru's pothole-infested roads on a war footing, the Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike (BBMP) still appears to be dragging its feet — so much so that even the most cherished stretch in the city is crying for attention.

Church Street, the 750-metre stretch, was renovated four years ago with five lakh hand-laid granite cobblestones at a cost of Rs 9 crore. The street has been ridden with potholes for months now. Many cobblestones have dislodged at multiple spots on the stretch — the path appears to be difficult to traverse for pedestrians and two-wheelers.

"I have been noticing dislodged stones for almost six months now. The issue has been persistent; we noticed stones missing from the stretch even before the pandemic

CONTINUED ON PAGE 4 »

3 THINGS TO DO

01 Calling all lawyers

The School of Legal Studies at CMR University, Bengaluru, will organize the National Moot Court Competition, their flagship event. The virtual inauguration of the event will be done by Hon'ble Justice Mrs BV Nagaratha, Judge - Supreme Court of India as the Chief Guest. A total of 20 colleges will be participating in the competition, two preliminary rounds will be judged by eminent judges, legal professionals and professors of law.
Where: OMBR Layout campus
When: May 20 – 22

02 Theatre for the soul

Catch Bangalore Little Theatre's latest production 'The Middle Class Gentleman' a comedy, about a social-climbing middle-class merchant, Monsieur Jourdain. He aspires to join the aristocracy by ordering splendid new clothes, engaging in such aristocratic pastimes as fencing and dancing, and learning the language of the noble class. In the process, he manages to make a complete fool of himself, much to the dismay of his intelligent wife. **Where: Alliance Française de Bangalore, Vasanth Nagar; When: May 21 and 22, 3:30 pm, 7:30 pm**

03 Solega in the spotlight

Solega is an ethnic group of south India. Birds play important roles in their life, myth, and culture. Their songs at their harvest festival ceremonies conclude with the Haduke – dusk-to-dawn song cycle about all the living beings in the forest, and Solega gods and goddesses. The Indian Music Experience Museum invites you to a celebration of Solega bird folklore, featuring performances by three generations of women from Biligirirangan Hills and a talk on Solega knowledge of birds by Dr Samira Agnihotri.
Where: Indian Music Experience Museum, JP Nagar; When: May 22, 5.30 pm – 7 pm
Tickets: bookmyshow.com

Top tips: Horror, but no stress; smart reading

Toppers share stories as 85.65% pass in SSLC exams; 11 score full marks

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Students check out how they fared as the SSLC Board exam results were out on Thursday

For many students, preparing for exams can be a horrifying experience, especially if it is the Boards. But, for one of the State's toppers, 'horror' was a way to score cent per cent marks. She revealed on Thursday when Primary and Secondary Education Minister BC Nagesh released the results for the academic year 2021-22 that she used to watch horror series as a stress relief.

For first time in history, 11 students have secured 625/625 marks.

Vishnu Priya R, a student of Blossoms School, said, "I was very tense about studying for the exam. It became a stressful experience and took a toll on my health. So, I decided to watch the horror series in between my studies to relieve stress. During the study breaks, I would watch horror series like The Conjuring and Annabelle. This helped me to face the exam fearlessly. Though I don't recommend this to everyone who wants to crack the exam, facing exams fearlessly is the key to writing it well."

Another topper speaks of an abrupt shift that she had to deal with to emerge on top. Ekta had shifted from a private school to a government one as her father couldn't afford hefty fees. This first-ranker from Mysuru's Adarsha school said, "When my younger brother told me that I have secured cent per cent marks, I thought he was playing a prank. When I realised that it was true, I ran towards home. I used to study the CISCE syllabus and then had to shift to a government school. Initially, it was very difficult for me to shift from posh private school to a government school," Ekta said. Her one preparation trick was smart reading. "I would highlight the important points and this helped me score well."

> **"I decided to watch the horror series in between my studies to relieve stress**
> – Vishnu Priya R, student

Sakshi Patil, a student of Bengaluru, has also scored cent per cent marks. She is the daughter of Raichur City MLA Shivaraj Patil.

85.63% students have passed

This year, around 85.63% of students who took the exams have passed. According to statistics, this is the best pass percentage in the last 10 years (Though the previous year, pass percentage was 99.99%, it cannot be counted as the exams were conducted in such a way that all the students could pass and the government had said that no one would fail. However, one student failed for indulging in malpractice). Analysing the reasons for the higher pass percentage, Nagesh said, "Usually, the question papers are framed in such a way that it will have 20% difficult questions. However, this year, we modified and ensured that there were only 10% tough questions. We had also provided a maximum of 10% grace marks to such students who had secured above 178 but had failed in one subject. Many students passed after getting grace marks."

Results leaked?

Though the SSLC exam results were officially announced at 12.30 pm, many social media sites posted SSLC results early in the day. When the minister was quizzed about this, he said, "It is impossible to access results before the official announcement. It may be another prank like a question paper leak. However, we will verify the issue."

Zero pass

Two government schools, three aided schools and 15 unaided schools have secured zero pass percentage. This year, the education department has discontinued the practice of ranking the districts based on SSLC results. Every year, there used to be a competition among various districts to secure the highest pass percentage. Nagesh said that this was resulting in unhealthy competition and so it was discontinued.

Gender sensitivity, frame by frame

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A still from the film Natkhat that will also be screened

At the Dehradun chapter of SamaBhav – an international travelling film festival revolving around gender issues gender– it was a girl's first-person account that proved to be an eye-opener for Harish Sadani, a main figure spearheading the film festival.

She spoke about the opportunity to get education from different parts of the country, but what remains etched in her mind was her parents constantly telling her to be careful as she was a girl. "None of this was told to her brother. That difference is what triggered her," says Sadani, the executive director of Men Against Violence and Abuse (MAVA).

It is countless stories like these that Sadani seeks to encourage with the help of select films at the two-day film festival being organised by Jain (deemed-to-be-university), MAVA, and Maraa Media and Arts Collective.

"While this fest seeks to address issues of violence, gender discrimination to toxic masculine culture and heteronormative behaviour, the larger picture is to steer conversations that may not happen on a day-to-day basis," adds Harish. "We are trying to provide a platform where these stories can be shared and heard, not just by people who identify as men or women or are non-binary even. The idea is to say that change cannot happen by focussing on just one community, everyone has to be a part of it," he explains, adding that while films help to spark off that dialogue, it is the discussions post the screening that are symbolic of many social issues.

As the head of India's first feminist organisation of men that works for and with men to sensitise them, Sadani adds that toxic masculinity was one such concept that they were trying to talk about and break free from. "It's not just women who are affected by such behaviours; men too are affected and do not realise it. A lot of these gender beliefs are social constructs: no one is born violent or with a toxic mentality; it is the result of the way we have been influenced," he says. The problem happens when these conversations do not get voiced as much as they should.

"The film fest provides a much-needed, safe, non-threatening space for youth pan India to freely ventilate their thoughts, ideas on gender, masculinity, sexuality and related topics without any hesitation," he said.

The festival will be held on May 20 and 21, 10 am – 5:30 pm, at School of Commerce Studies, Jain, 9th Block Jayanagar. To register: 9870307748/ 9845542327

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Ill-maintained Seegehalli Lake has come of sewage

Choked drains cannot take the rain and sewage overflow is dragged into the lake that citizens have been struggling to rejuvenate

Iffath.Fathima @timesgroup.com
TWEETS @BangaloreMIRROR

While rain after-effects are seen on the roads of the city, even lakes are not spared. The Seegehalli Lake that was slowly getting in better shape after fishkill due to sewage in 2018, but the recent rain saw a torrent of trash being dragged into the lake.

After sewage flowed into the lake last year due to clogged underground drains, the Bangalore Water Supply and Sewerage Board (BWSSB) engineers created a diversion channel. But the drains continued to be choked and so with a heavy lashing of rain, the sewage overflow from the drain and trash has flown into the lake.

Lake activist Balaji Raghotham said, "The lake has been in a bad state as sewage was entering it. With each spell of rain, trash flows into it. There is a foul smell emanating from the lake. In November 2020, the lake was given a new lease of life, but it didn't take long for the condition to deteriorate. The lake was not desilted and the drains haven't been cleared. Everytime the UGD gets choked, sewage flows inside the lake. This is aggravated in the rain."

Recent rain saw overflow from drains flowing into the Seegehalli Lake; plastic trash was also dragged in along with the flowing sewage

Another resident said the lake was not being well-maintained by the authorities. "The BBMP Lakes Department has not taken up new developmental work. It is the same kind of work that was done years ago. Residents from nearby apartments also throw dry waste into the rajkaluves which ends up choking the drains." Volunteers have carried out several activities like building perches to attract birds and planting saplings to increase the biodiversity of the lake, but the authorities have not got their act together.

> **"The trash in the lake is going to remain like this for a long time as nobody will come and clear it**
>
> –A resident of the area

"The trash in the lake is going to remain like this for a long time. Nobody will come and clear it. If waste flows inside the lake it might lead to eutrophication. Eutrophication is the process in which a water body becomes overly enriched with nutrients, leading to plentiful growth of simple plant life. The excessive growth (or bloom) of algae and plankton in a water body are indicators of this process. Eutrophication is considered to be a serious environmental concern since it often results in the deterioration of water quality and the depletion of dissolved oxygen in water bodies. Eutrophic waters can eventually become "dead zones" that are incapable of supporting life," said a resident.

Government of India
Ministry of Home Affairs
Department of Official Language

Rajbhasha Gaurav Award Scheme for Original Book Writing in Official Language Hindi for the year 2021.

Books published between 01.01.2021 and 31.12.2021 are invited for the under mentioned award schemes of the Department of Official Language, Ministry of Home Affairs.

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Eligibility: Any citizen of India can take part in this Scheme.

Information and proforma about these schemes is available on our website **http://www.rajbhasha.gov.in**. The last date for sending the books is 31.05.2022.

Deputy Director (Implementation)
011-23438046

davp 19201/11/0003/2223

Model street in shambles

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

struck. It is disheartening to see the taxpayers' money wasted. BBMP spent crores of rupees to get this stretch renovated and now there is no one to maintain it," said Alexander James, a pedestrian and a senior citizen who frequents the stretch for evening walks.

According to the Church Street Shop Owners' Association, the issue was reported to officials in charge back in January, but no action has been taken so far.

"The issue was reported in January but no one came for repair works. When we reached out to BBMP again, we were told that the repair work will happen soon. A couple of construction works are going on the stretch and that is leading to heavy vehicle movements. This is aggravating the issue," said a member of the Church Street Shop Owners' Association. The stones are missing from multiple spots between Brigade Road junction and Shobha mall. Resident citizens said more than 30 stones are missing on this stretch. Once a stone moves out of place or loosens, other pieces start to come apart. Some spots have multiple stones missing, creating potholes that are now filled with rainwater.

"All they need is some concrete to fix the stretch. Water splashes on us often while we are walking. Church Street was supposed to be the model street of the city. However, there is arrogance and lack of empathy on part of the authorities when it comes to maintaining the stretch. Pedestrians and two-wheelers are facing difficulties. If not fixed sooner, it will pose a danger in the days to come," said another resident citizen. BBMP officials told BM that the issue has been brought to their notice in the past as well and work on the stretch will begin soon. "We were facing issues with the appointment of annual maintenance contractors over the last few months. However, it is now resolved.

We will immediately investigate the issue and get the stones laid wherever required. We wanted to fix the stretch a couple of weeks ago. However, it has been raining for days now and the work was delayed," said BS Prahalad, chief engineer (major roads and projects), BBMP.

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Concrete error

Haralur

This is how a drain fence was built around a tree in Royal Placid Layout, near Haralur Main Road. No wonder trees become weak and fall during heavy rains.

Debris dump

Mathikere

The debris after infrastructure construction work has been left behind at Mathikere near Hotel Ramana Inn lodge. Please get it cleared out.

Footpath biz

Uttam Sagar

A footpath is completely occupied by vegetable vendors and a cycle shop opposite the Ayyappa temple at Uttam Sagar area and BBMP never checks on this.

Complainant alleges police inaction on hate speech in city

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Sanjay Nagar police claim investigation into complaint on communally provocative speeches is going ahead in right direction, but no arrests have been made so far

Even though an FIR has been registered under sections of the IPC 153-A among others, the Sanjay Nagar police are yet to make the arrest of an activist attached to the Hindu Janajagruti Samiti over hate speeches involving communally provocative statements in the city recently. "Instead of arresting the accused, the police have issued a notice to me, and the police are demanding to know where I had come across this video and saying that the incident didn't happen under their jurisdiction," said complainant Zia R Nomani, the founding member of Law and Policy Research Institute.

Moreover, a police sub-inspector attached with the Sanjay Nagar police station is said to have visited the complainant's house and checked with his landlord how long he had been staying at the place, also inquired with a neighbour where the complainant worked and so on.

"If I say I had seen the video on my mobile or laptop, then the police will take away my gadgets and start harassing me. Despite the sections under IPC being non-bailable, the police are treading at their own pace for reasons best known to them," Nomani added. This complaint was in regard with the hate speech by Chandru Mogar, an activist from Hindu Janajagruti Samiti.

In regards with another complaint registered with the Deputy Commissioner of Police (North) Division in a separate instance of hate speech that allegedly took place at a BBMP community hall in Rajajinagar on Sunday, Nomani said the police are not even ready to accept the complaint with an acknowledgement. Nomani's complaint stated that the hate speeches referred to the minority community as cancer; spoke about land, economic and love jihad, while a lawyer who was a part of the gathering started his speech listing noise and environment pollution by the community.

"They want us to go to the court and fight and go through the tedious procedure so that we get discouraged and don't pursue any complaint. This is like normalising hate speeches which will embolden the fringe elements. We will wait for a few days and file a PCR with the court and pursue another case," he added.

A senior police officer from Sanjay Nagar police told Bangalore Mirror there is a Supreme Court ruling that it is a discretionary power of an investigating officer to decide if he wants to arrest if need be in a case where the punishment is less than seven years. "The investigation is going ahead in the right direction and we will take the case to a logical conclusion. In this case, though the complainant knows that the crime had not happened in our jurisdiction (Sanjay Nagar), he is stubborn that he has to file a complaint where he lives and not at Rajajinagar where the alleged event had taken place. He could also have seen a broadcasted video of the event from somewhere which is what we are investigating," said a senior police officer.

Airport arrival hall keys 'missing'

Many passengers arriving at Kempegowda International Airport (KIA) had to wait for more than 20 minutes as the gate keys had gone 'missing'. Journalist Vir Sanghvi took to Twitter at 8.31 pm on May 18 and wrote: "At Bangalore airport, arriving passengers on international flights kept waiting because they couldn't find the key to open the arrival hall door to let them in for over 20 minutes. Many were rushing to make connections. The customs and immigration were great but the problem was CISF and bad airport management." He further went on to state that the personnel tried to open with two different keys but did not fit. Reacting to this, airport officials tweeted him to send his phone number via direct message to get the issue resolved. —BMB

No fanfare, only family to remember late president

Grandsons visit Sanjiva Reddy's memorial for birth anniversary

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It was former President Neelam Sanjiva Reddy 109th birth anniversary on Thursday. But with not many elected representatives or state and Central Government officials being aware of it, his grandsons DV Prasada, a retired IAS officer and NS Ravi, a social activist, were among the only ones to visit Sanjiva Reddy's memorial at Kalpally Electric Crematorium premises to pay their respects.

That the former president's memorial is in the city too may come as news to many.

The memorial is a result of the work by Bharathinagar Residents' Forum led by Ravi. Earlier, a few Andhra Pradesh government officials have visited the memorial during Chandrababu Naidu's regime when the former president's birth centenary was held in 2013, but since then, no dignitary has bothered to visit.

"I have been appealing to the Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike (BBMP) to maintain Sanjiva Reddy's memorial properly and develop a garden around the memorial for visitors. The state government must also come forward to celebrate Sanjiva Reddy's birth anniversary each year," said Ravi, president, Bharathinagar Residents' Forum.

On Thursday, Ravi engaged a few people to decorate the memorial and made arrangements to pay floral tributes to late Sanjiva Reddy. DV Prasada said he visited the memorial as a grandson. "My grandfather was against the burial of his mortal remains. He used to tell us to cremate his body and immerse his ashes in a river. He did not want construction of any memorial as there would be no one to maintain it, but the Central Government decided to have a memorial but forgot about it. I am happy with whatever the BBMP did to maintain my grandfather's memorial," said Prasad.

The memorial was in a poor condition in 2016. It is said that no one used to visit Sanjiva Reddy's memorial after his body was cremated here in June on June 3, 1996 though the ceremony was attended by bigwigs.

DV Prasada and NS Ravi at the Neelam Sanjiva Reddy's memorial at Kalpally Electric Crematorium premises

"The Central Government decided to have a memorial but forgot about it. I am happy with whatever the BBMP did to maintain my grandfather's memorial

–DV Prasada, retired IAS officer

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personal

CHANGE OF NAME

I, Anuradha Kumari W/o Pramendra Kumar R/o B707 Vrr Nest Beretena Agrahara Electronic City Bangalore Karnataka 560100 have changed my name to Anuradha Devi for all purposes.

I, VENKATACHALAM. G S/o. Govinda Raju residing at No.90/1, 2nd Cross, Manorayanapalya, R.T.Nagar Post, Bangalore-560032 have changed my name to VENKATESH.G S/o. GOVINDARAJ vide affidavit dated 19/04/2022 before notary Leela, Bangalore

I, SYED KALIM PASHA GHANI R/at #239,8th Cross, Pillanagarden 1st Stage, Sagayapuram, Bangalore - 560084. I, Have changed my name to SYED KALIM PASHA, Vide Affidavit Dated:18/05/2022 Sworn before Notary: Prakasha.C, Advocate,

I, Amith Kumar Bagivalu Ashwath Kumar S/O, Ashwath Kumar R/o No 35, 15th Cross, 3rd Block Vishwa Priya Nagar, Begur, Bommanahalli, Bengaluru 560068 have changed my name to AMITH KUMAR BEGUR ASHWATH KUMAR for all purposes

I, Chenna Uma Manasa Nikitha W/o Sikaakolli Keshava R/o # 29 , 3rd Main, 3rd Cross Narayana Reddy Layout Abbigere have changed my name to Sikaakolli Nikitha for all purposes.

I, Mir Rahib Raza, Son/ Daughter of Mir Ghalib Raza, holder of Indian Passport No. Z2380783, issued at Dubai, on 01/03/2012, permanent resident of (No 21, 9th Cross, Adi Kabir Ashram Road, Moti Nagar, Mattadahalli, RT Nagar, Bengaluru, Karnataka, India-560032), and presently residing at, (17 Bellotti Cres, Ajax, ON, Canada L1Z0M2) do hereby change my name from Mir Rahib Raza Jung to Mir Rahib Raza, with immediate effect.

I Supriyaa Krishna Kumar D/O, Krishna Kumar G R/o No 1333, Girinagar Bangalore 560085 have changed my name to Supriya Krishna

WE, Mr. C. Ranjith Singh (father) & Mrs. M.Shashikala (mother R/o 99/9, 1st Floor, Narayanappa rd, ramaswamy playa, Bengaluru-33. Have changed our daughter name from ASHPRITHA SINGH.R to ADITI SINGH.R. Vide affidavit date 18-5-2022. Before notary Leela, Bengaluru.

MOAMMED KHIZAR SADIQ PASHA S/O SADIQ PASHA. F R/O #179 ward No 17 Muniswamy Layout, Chickballapur Town - Chickballapur Dist - 562101,Karnataka. Have changed my name to SHAIKH MOHAMMED KHIZAR

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RITHU S
594 (95.04)

What to plant where

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

may pose danger to the buildings in the future. Peepal, banyan and neralu saplings are known for fast growth and their roots would damage nearby buildings," said Balaji Raghothaman, an environmentalist.

Coming down heavily on those responsible for planting peepal, banyan and neralu saplings on DVG Road, environmentalist Dr AN Yellappa Reddy said there are around 100 indigenous species suitable for planting in urban areas.

"BBMP forest department or those who want to plant trees have to consider whether the area is suitable for planting specific saplings. The department has to consult tree experts before allowing the planting of saplings on road sides in the city. Syzygium species and saraca asoca (Ashoka tree) are suitable for planting in urban areas. Peepal and banyan saplings are suitable for planting in open places," said Dr Reddy, adding that the authorities or citizens planting saplings have to verify whether the saplings concerned when grown into trees would affect underground drains or overhead electric wires.

He said BBMP forest department has to take biotic and abiotic factors into consideration before deciding to plant saplings — biotic factors are living things within an ecosystem such as plants, animals and bacteria, while abiotics are non-living components such as water, soil and atmosphere. The way these components interact is critical in an ecosystem.

Meanwhile, BBMP deputy range officer (Bengaluru South) LB Chidanand said residents or social organisations need not seek permission from the BBMP forest department to plant saplings.

"I am not aware of wrong saplings planted on either side of DVG Road. I will look into the matter," said Chidanand.

Energy Dept to store power in battery units

Sridhar.Vivan
@timesgroup.com
TWEETS @sridharVMIRROR

Pavagada Solar Farm

Battery storage seems to be the buzzword these days. Now, the energy department too has decided to go for battery storage of electricity.

Even if 10,000 Megawatts (MW) of power is generated via solar or wind energy in the state, there is no provision to store it and so the energy is wasted if there is no demand. To remedy this, Karnataka plans to set up a hybrid park to provide electricity round-the-clock, which will not only have the provision for solar and wind energy but also store the generated power that could be utilised later.

It is expected that the State wants to enhance the capacity of storing up to 500 MW of green energy. The energy department has identified seven districts - Tumkaruru, Gadag, Chitradurga, Davanagere, Bagalkot, Haveri and Vijayapura - for this.

Energy Minister Sunil Kumar said, "So far, we have had solar and wind energy generating units without storage facilities. Though production was higher, there was no provision for storage. Energy will be saved in battery units. Currently, the solar park at Pavagada has the provision to store 50 MW. So, we have decided that in the future any green energy investment should mandatorily have a storage facility as well. The only glitch is that these storage units will be expensive as battery cost is higher."

He said that Karnataka will now focus only on green energy as any future electricity projects in the State will be in the form of only green energy.

Power woes continue in city

Despite the claim that the State was well placed in the energy sector, many areas in the city continue to face unscheduled power cuts. Many Bengalureans claim that there are frequent power cuts with incessant rainfall. "Many of the apartment complexes are flooded in the basement. And we are unable to use the pumpset due to power cuts. I hope the energy department did not only focus on generating power but also in effective distribution with minimal or no power cuts," said Shanmuga S, a resident of Konanakunte.

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MUKTA CINEMAS A2 — Uttarahalli 1.00 & 7.00 pm

ROCKLINE CINEMAS — Jalahalli Cross 4.15 & 9.45 pm

INNOVATIVE — Marthalli : 9.45 am, 4.00 & 10.00 pm

KIN CINEMAS — Seegehalli Road: 1.15 & 7.30 pm

SWAGATH [JC Road : 1.00 & 7.30 pm], CINEMAX-1 SOUL SPACE SPIRIT MALL [Bellandur : 3.30 pm], CINEMAX-2 SOUL SPACE ARENA [Bangalore : 3.25 pm], THE CINEMA GT WORLD [Magadi Road : 3.30 pm], AURA PARK SQUARE MALL [Whitefield : 3.25 pm], VICTORY [Magadi Road : 10.00 pm], AMRUTH [Lingarajpuram : 1.30 & 7.30 pm], BIG CINEMAS [Kundapura], BIG CINEMA [Mangalore : 1.30 pm], SANDHYA [Mangalore : 7.30 pm], SUCHITRA [Mangalore : ATMOS : 1.00 & 8.00 pm], BHARATH [Manipal : 4.00 pm], SAMPIGE [Sampige Road : 1.30, 4.30 & 7.30 pm], PUSHPANJALI [Sulthanpalya : 1.30 & 7.30 0m], PUSHPANJALI [BN Pura : 2.00 & 9.00 pm], VINAYAKA [Mysore Road : 10.30 am, 1.30, 4.30 & 7.30 pm], VIJAY [Byatarayanpura : 10.30 am, 1.30, 4.30 & 7.30 pm], KRISHNA [Bommanahalli : 2.00 & 7.300 pm], SRINIVASA [SG Palya : 4.30 & 7.30 pm], URVASHI [Lalbagh : 2.30 pm], SRI MAHADESHWARA [Kadirenhalli : 10.30 am & 7.30 pm], VAINIDHI [Singapura : 4.30 & 7.30 pm], ARUNA [Srirampura : 1.30, 4.30 & 7.30 pm], BALAJI [Honnarpete : 1.30, 4.30 & 7.30 pm], BALAJI [Chikalasandra : 6.45 pm], RAJKAMAL [Mysore : 10.30 am, 1.30, 4.30 & 7.30 pm], DRC [Mysore : 1.00 & 10.00 pm], VISION [Mysore : 1.00 & 7.00 pm], MEENAKSHI [Mysore Road : 10.30 am, 1.30, 4.30 & 7.30 pm], BHARATH [Shimoga : 12.45 pm], BHARATH [Udupi : 1.00 & 2.00 pm], NANDA [Mandya : 10.30 am & 4.30 pm], MEERALAAM [Hospete : 6.00 pm] and other cinemas.

PARAS

PVR CINEMAS {Phoenix Market City, 9:40, 10:25 a.m., 12:45, 1:15, 3:20, 3:50, 6:55, 10:00 p.m. | Forum Mall, 9:15, 9:40 a.m., 12:45, 3:10, 3:50, 6:55, 9:40, 10:00 p.m. | Orion Mall, 9:15, 9:40 a.m., 12:45, 3:10, 3:50, 6:55, 9:40, 10:00 p.m. | Orion Uptown Mall, 9:40 a.m., 12:45, 3:50, 6:55, 10:00 p.m. | MSR Regalia Mall, 9:40 a.m., 12:45, 3:50, 6:55, 10:00 p.m. | Spirit Mall, 9:00 a.m., 12:05, 6:35, 9:40 p.m. | Arena Mall, 9:40, 10:35 a.m., 12:45, 3:50, 6:55, 10:00 p.m. | VR Mall, 9:10, 9:40 a.m., 12:15, 12:45, 3:20, 3:50, 6:25, 6:55, 9:30, 10:00 p.m. | Vaishnavi Saphire Mall, 8:55 a.m., 12:25, 3:30, 6:35, 9:40 p.m. | Vega City Mall, 9:10, 9:40 a.m., 12:15, 12:45, 3:20, 3:50, 6:25, 6:55, 9:30, 10:00 p.m. | The Cinema @ GT Mall, Magadi Road, 10:15 a.m., 3:50, 6:55, 10:00 p.m. | The Aura, Whitefield, 12:30, 6:55, 10:00 p.m.} | INOX {Garuda Mall, 9:50, 10:35 a.m., 12:50, 3:50, 6:55, 9:15, 10:00 p.m. | Swagath Mall, 10:10 a.m., 4:05, 10:00 p.m. | Central Mall, JP Nagar, 9:25 a.m., 12:30, 6:25, 9:30 p.m. | Lido, 9:10 a.m., 12:15, 3:20, 6:25, 9:30 p.m. | Forum Value Mall, 9:40, 10:50 a.m., 12:45, 3:50, 6:55, 10:00 p.m. | Mantri Mall, 9:40 a.m., 12:35, 3:40, 6:45, 9:00, 9:50 p.m. | Brookefield Mall, 9:45 a.m., 12:50, 6:45, 9:50 p.m. | SBR Horizon, Seegehalli, 9:30 a.m., 12:35, 3:40, 6:45, 8:50, 9:50 p.m. | Garuda, Yelahanka, 9:50 a.m., 12:55, 6:45, 9:50 p.m. | Galleria Mall, RMZ Yelahanka, 9:20 a.m., 12:25, 3:30, 6:35, 9:40 p.m.} | CINEPOLIS {Royal Meenakshi Mall | ETA Mall, Binny Mill | East Orion Mall | Shantiniketan | SJR Spectrum Mall | Sigma Mall} | GOPALAN {Innovation Mall, 1:15, 5:15, 9:30 p.m. | Arcade Mall, 10:00 p.m. | Signature Mall, 2:15, 7:15 p.m. | Grand Mall, 10:30 a.m., 6:00, 10:00 p.m. | Legacy Mall, 10:15 a.m., 2:15, 6:30, 9:45 p.m.} | INNOVATIVE MULTIPLEX {Marathahalli, 9:50 a.m., 12:45, 3:45, 6:45, 9:40 p.m.} | KINO CINEMAS {Seegehalli Road, 1:20, 9:30 p.m.} | MUKTA A2 CINEMAS {Uttarahalli, 2:30, 10:00 p.m.} | SWAGATH SHANKARNAG, 12:00, 5:15, 10:00 p.m. | VINAYAKA THEATRE {DJ Halli, 2 Shows} | LAKSHMI THEATRE {Tavarekere, 4:00, 10:00 p.m.} | CAUVERY THEATRE {Sankey Road, 4 Shows} | ANAND THEATRE {Tanny Road, 3:30, 7:00 p.m.} | ABHINAY THEATRE {K G Road, 3 Shows} | SANTOSH THEATRE {RPC Layout, 4 Shows} | BALAJI THEATRE {Chikkakallasandra, 2 Shows| ANJAN THEATRE {Magadi Road, 10:15 a.m., 7:15 p.m.} | VAIBHAV THEATRE {Sanjay Nagar, 4:30, 9:30 p.m.} | HMT AUDITORIUM, 1:45, 7:15 p.m. | URVASHI THEATER {Lalbagh Road, 6:00, 9:30 p.m.} | RENUKA PRASANNA THEATRE {J. P. Nagar, 1:30, 8:45 p.m.} | CINEPOLIS {City Centre Mall, Mangalore} | PVR CINEMAS {Fiza Mall, Mangalore, 9:40 a.m., 12:45, 3:50, 6:55, 10:00 p.m. | Forum Mall, Mysore, 9:40 a.m., 12:45, 3:50, 6:55, 10:00 p.m. | Garuda Mall, Mysore, 9:00 a.m., 12:05, 6:35, 9:40 p.m.} | INOX {Central, Manipal, 10:00 a.m., 1:00, 4:00, 7:00, 10:00 p.m. | Satyam Mall, Mysore, 9:45 a.m., 12:45, 6:35, 9:40 p.m. | SS Mall, Tumkur, 10:10 a.m., 1:10, 2:10, 3:30, 6:35, 9:40 p.m.} | BHARATH CINEMAS {Mangalore, 10:30 a.m., 1:15, 10:00 p.m. | Manipal, 10:30 a.m., 1:15, 4:30, 7:00, 10:00 p.m. | Shivamoga, 10:45 a.m., 7:15, 10:00 p.m. | Kundapura, 10:30 a.m., 1:15, 7:00, 10:00 p.m.} | CINE GALAXY NOVA CINEMAZ {Mangalore, 4 Shows} | SP CINEMAS {Mangalore, 4 Shows} | DRC CINEMAS {Mysore, 3 Shows} | SRI BALAJI DELUXE {Myosre, 4 Shows} | MOVIETIME {Davangere, 10:00 a.m., 3:00, 10:30 p.m.} | TRINETRA THEATRE {Davangere, 4 Shows} | MANJUNATHA {Shivamoga, 4 Shows} | RR CINEMAS {Bellary, 4 Shows} | NATARAJ THEATRE {Bellary, 2 Shows} | JAYALAKSHMI THEATRE {Mandya, 2 Shows} | SRI LEKHA THEATARE {Chikkamagalur, 5:45, 8:45 p.m.}.

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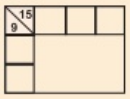
SOLVE IT IN A MINUTE

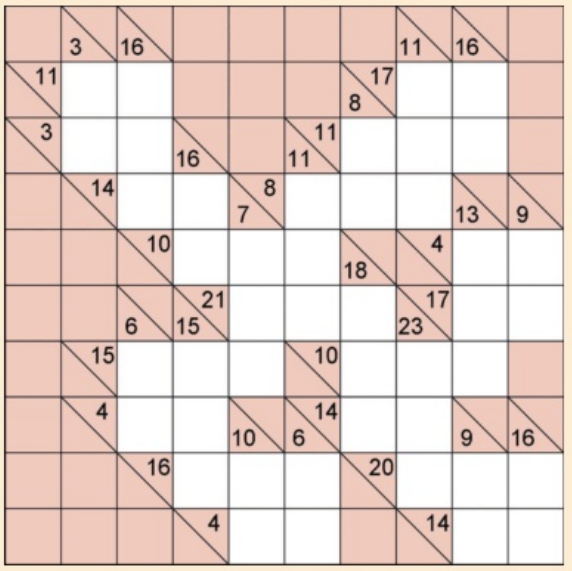
A 1x2x4 cu ft copper cuboid is melted down to make coins. How many 2 mm thick coins with a 2 cm diameter can be made?

Kakuro

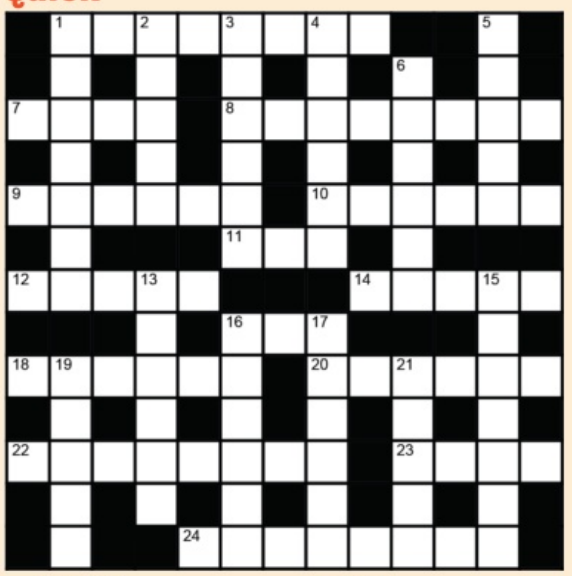
The numbers in the grey squares refer to the sums of the digits that you must fill into the empty spaces directly below or to the right of the grey square containing the number. For instance, in the given example, the 3 boxes horizontally next to 15 must contain 3 digits that add up to 15, whereas for 9, it is the 2 boxes placed vertically under it that must add up to 9. No zeros are used here, only the digits 1 through 9.



Note: A digit cannot appear more than once in any particular digit combination. For instance, in the example, we cannot have the combination of 4+7+4 for 15.



Quick



ACROSS

1 Collecting slowly and with efforts (8)
7 Capital of Azerbaijan (4)
8 Nationalists (8)
9 Cheek depression (6)
10 Liken to (6)
11 Miserable (3)
12 Foreign language (5)
14 Hints (5)
16 Public conveyance (3)
18 Queasiness (6)
20 Number of districts in our state (6)
22 Music duo ___ Anandji (8)
23 Singer Simone (4)
24 A healthy drink (5-3)

DOWN

1 City in Madhya Pradesh (7)
2 Fit out (5)
3 Italian city (6)
4 Caught or ensnared (6)
5 Group of eight (5)
6 Formal procedure (6)
13 Literary compositions (6)
15 Baltic Republic (7)
16 Flag, pennant or symbol (6)
17 Earnestly attempt (6)
19 Rapidly (5)
21 Otherwise ? (2,3)

Quoteuncode

This puzzle is a substitution cipher in which one letter stands for another. If you think that Q equals C, it will equal C throughout the puzzle. Single letters, short words and words using an apostrophe give you clues to locating vowels. Solution is by trial and error.

Today's CLUE: E EQUALS G

FSUNM MNTV NZS RHCF ZHLKNTL ANIYJVHSE HL ZHLK LKJL NC JSNLKFV.

Linemaro

I wish we had met sooner

Mindchow

Advice to children crossing the street: damn the lights. Watch the cars. The lights ain't never killed nobody

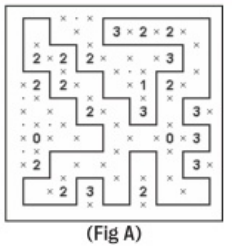
Joke of the day

Two snowmen are standing in a field. One says to the other: "Funny, I smell carrots too"

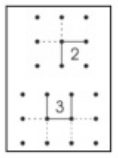
Loop

Rules

» Connect adjacent dots with vertical or horizontal lines, creating a single loop (Fig A). » Crossovers or branches are not allowed (As shown by dotted lines in Fig B). » Numbers in the puzzle indicate the number of lines that should surround it, while empty cells may be surrounded by any number of lines. » You can't draw lines around zeros. » Each puzzle has just one unique solution.



(Fig A)



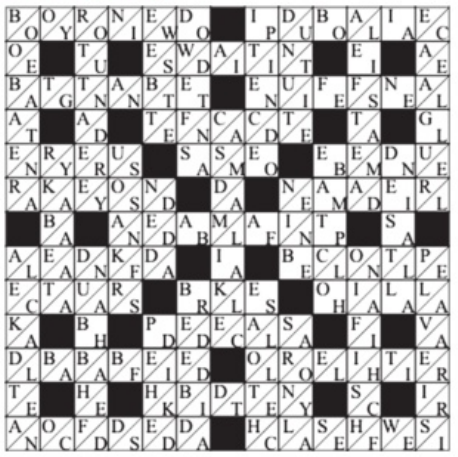
(Fig B) Not Allowed

How to begin:

Example (Fig A) – Begin with the zero next to 3. Since no lines can be drawn around zero, mark crosses around it, as shown. Now there is a cross in one space around 3. So we know the three lines of 3 can only be drawn in the remaining three spaces. Next, these lines can only be extended in one direction each. Continue, using the same logic.

Hints: Keep eliminating possibilities by marking crosses in spaces between dots where a line isn't possible, i.e., if you have already completed required lines or where a line extension may create a branch or cause a dead-end (Fig B)

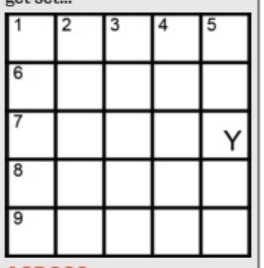
Strikeout



This crossword has no clues and the answer is there waiting for you. All you have to do is find it in each square. You have a choice of two letters, one of which you must strike out. If you choose correctly, you will be left with a grid that contains real words.

Fast five

How long do you think it will take you to unscramble the ten words shown below and fit them correctly into the grid in the order given one letter has already been entered to get you started? on your marks, get set...



ACROSS

1 As cub; 6 Lunar;
7 Say Ms; 8 A rale;
9 Scowl

DOWN

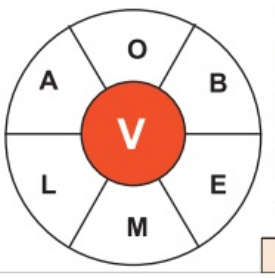
1 Camus; 2 Coral;
3 Us wen; 4 Baals;
5 Lyra's

Mensapuzzle

What number goes into the brackets?

64 (49) 144
85 (57) 119
144 ( ) 90

Bull's eye



How many words of four or more letters can you make from the letters shown? Every word must contain the central letter. There should be one seven-letter word. British English Dictionary is used as a reference.

06 Average; 07 Good; 09 Outstanding

SudokuChallenge

			6				9	1
1					9			
	7					2	6	
	3			1			2	6
	5		2		7		8	
2	4			9			5	
	6	8					7	
			4					8
5	9				3			

To solve a Sudoku puzzle, every digit from one to nine must appear in each of the nine vertical columns, in each of the nine horizontal rows and in each of the nine boxes.

Gofigure

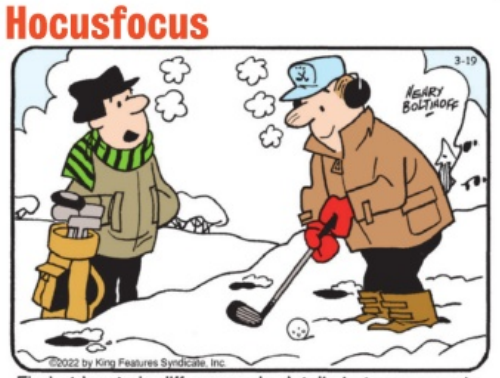
Place the four numbers in the first, third, fifth, and seventh boxes and whatever operators you care to use in the second, fourth, and sixth boxes in the correct order to get the answer. Use the numbers only once.

Easy = 6
2 6 6 8

Medium = 10
2 3 3 7

Hard = 16
4 8 9 5

Hocusfocus



Find at least six differences in details between panels.

Differences: 1. Club is longer. 2. Strap is missing. 3. Pocket is moved. 4. Bush is smaller. 5. Scarf is different. 6. Zipper is missing.

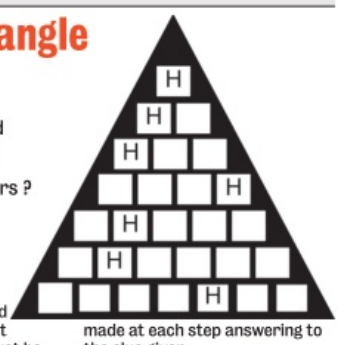
Riddler

Even if you don't like cats, you should be able to determine the following words. Each of these includes the word CAT.

A dreadful event: _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ (11)
A robber who climbs walls: _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ (3,7)
A systematized list: _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ (9)

Alpha triangle

1 8th letter
2 That man
3 _ up: excited
4 Engrave with acid
5 Large strong box
6 Skydiver's needs
7 Senses with fingers ?



Beginning at the top move towards the bottom seven-letter word by adding a letter at each step and rearranging. A correct and different word must be made at each step answering to the clue given.

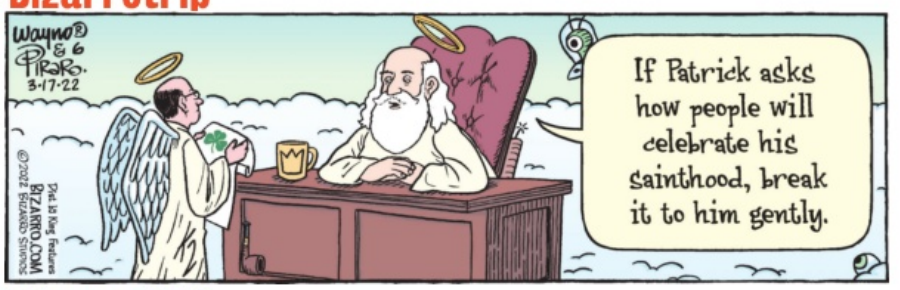
DIFFICULT TO SOLVE? FIND THESE SOLUTIONS ON THE NEXT PAGE

COMICS

Redeye by Mel Casson

I HOPE THE PALEFACES DON'T SPOT US COMING!
UH-OH! THEY'RE CIRCLING UP THEIR WAGONS..YOU KNOW WHAT THAT MEANS!
THEY'RE GONNA HAVE A "TAILGATE PARTY"?!
3-7
Yates/Casson

Bizarrotrip

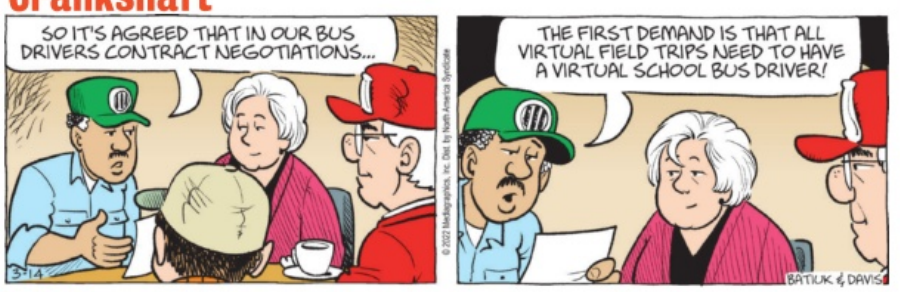


Diamond Lil

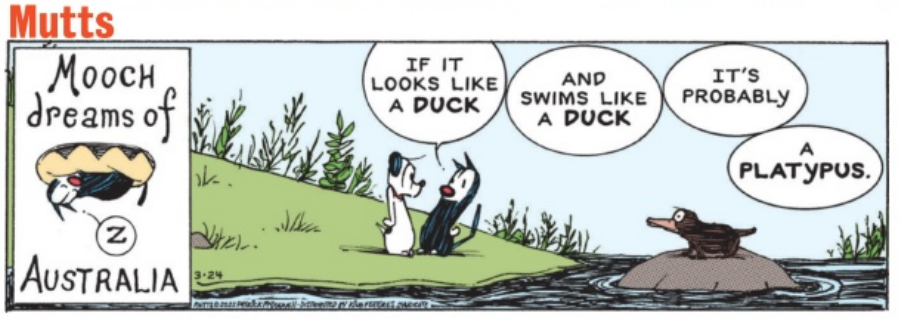
Hart of the city

WHAT DO YOU WANT TO BE WHEN YOU GROW UP?
I USED TO WANT TO BE YOUR AVERAGE CELEBRITY INFLUENCER. BUT NOW I'M LOOKING MORE TOWARD NATIONAL ICON.
LOFTY GOALS ARE WORTH MORE IN THIS PAGEANT. YOU'RE GETTING BETTER AT THIS.
©COMICS.COM/HEARTOFTHECITY
HEART OF THE CITY © 2022 ANDREWS MCMEEL

Crankshaft


SO IT'S AGREED THAT IN OUR BUS DRIVERS CONTRACT NEGOTIATIONS...
THE FIRST DEMAND IS THAT ALL VIRTUAL FIELD TRIPS NEED TO HAVE A VIRTUAL SCHOOL BUS DRIVER!
BATIUK & DAVIS

Mutts



WHAT YOUR STARS SAY TODAY

Aries Mar 21 – Apr 20
Today, your spiritual power may make you happy. Your way of thinking may be positive. You will be inclined towards spiritualism today. You may plan to visit some religious place. You may also take interest in occult science. You are likely to observe flawlessness in your nature. It is advised to keep your views with you only; try to discuss with those who may understand your frequency.

Taurus Apr 21 – May 20
Today, you may feel nervous; you may have lack of patience for seeking peace. You may be attracted by occult; it is advised to follow your intuition before going ahead. You may also get in-depth knowledge on a subject or you may have a good focus towards your research.

Gemini May 21 – Jun 21
Today, your moon is placed in a good position; you may expect some positive momentum in professional and domestic life. There will be gains in terms of your investments. You may get reciprocation for your help from your friends and relatives. Your hard work may pay you in terms of success.

Cancer Jun 22 – July 23
Today you may do better; kid's health will be better now. You can plan to make some investments for kid's future. You are likely to be more loyal towards your job. Job-seeker may find a good job with the help of reference. You may be able to find your hidden enemies and with the help of blessings, you may counter them.

Leo Jul 24 – Aug 23
Today, you may hear good news in terms of job. Job-seekers may be focused to attain success in exams with the help of hard work. Singles may get engaged to their soulmate. You may also hear some good news in terms of childbirth.

Virgo Aug 24 – Sep 23
Today, you may plan for a change in place; it is advised to postpone decision related to migration. It is also advised to avoid investment in business. By late evening, situation may be under control. With the help of good advice from one of the elders, you may control the messy situation.

Libra Sep 24 – Oct 22
Today, you may expect some short business trip. You may also expect to get some rewards for your success in your domain. Your respect around you may be increased. You may hear some good news from siblings. Job seekers who are seeking management job may get success. Singles are likely to get engaged.

Scorpio Oct 23 – Nov 22
Today, you are blessed by your elders. New sources of income are likely to be opened which will boost your bank balance; you may plan to renovate your house. You may get a big order which can grow your family business multiple times. Need to keep patience while signing any contract. There may be some movement into your business; delayed projects will start again.

Sagittarius Nov 23 – Dec 22
Today is a good day for you. You may have good vitality and health. You may enjoy your work. Today this is your challenge to avoid straightness. It is advised to avoid arguments on worthless topics, otherwise there may be some disputes in the family. If you may be able to control your tongue, then you may expect healthy partnerships in business and harmony in family. Job seekers may find suitable job. Lovebirds are advised to avoid discussing worthless topics.

Capricorn Dec 23 – Jan 20
Today your vital power may be slow; your old disease may reappear which may make you upset. You are advised to avoid adventure tours or rash driving. You are advised to avoid any type of litigations; you may settle it out of court. You may also plan for overseas tour.

Aquarius Jan 21 – Feb 19
Today, you may get profits in your past investments. Your losses may convert into profits. Implementation of new ideas may give progress in the business. Today you may get success easily. You are likely to meet an influential person who may show you the right path to get success. Lovebirds may take some decisions in terms of marriage. Couples will hear good news in terms of kids. Job seekers will get suitable job.

Pisces Feb 20 – Mar 20
Today your family and spouse will support you, it will increase domestic harmony. Due to overload at work, you may not give proper time to your family. You are expected to see a strong position on the professional front. Projects related to government agencies are likely to be initiated now.

KIDZONE

Tejas K S, 11 Years, Gnana Boshini

Nischita Shekinah, 8 Years, St. Francis Xaviers High School

Kidzone, Bangalore Mirror, No.4, KSCCF Compound, Pampa Maha Kavi Road, Chamrajpet, Bengaluru 560 018; Please send hard copies of your artwork in A4 size only.

SOLUTIONS

SOLVE IN 1M
Cuboid volume (cm cu)
$1^2 \cdot 4 = 8$ ft cu =
2265342.772736 cm cu
Coin volume (cm cu)
height$\cdot \pi \cdot r^2$
$.2 \cdot \pi \cdot 1^2 = .2\pi$
Number of coins
$2265342.772736/(.2 \cdot \pi)$
360,541 coins

QUOTE UNCODE
Enjoy your own life without comparing it with that of another.

S	C	U	B	A
U	L	N	A	R
M	A	S	S	Y
A	R	E	A	L
C	O	W	L	S

FAST FIVE

BULL'S EYE
above, love, move, oval, vale, veal, vole

STRIKE OUT

B	O	R	N	E	O	P	U	B	L	I	C			
E	U	S	W	A	I	N	I	N	G					
A	G	N	A	T	E	E	I	F	F	E	L			
T	D	E	N	A	C	T	T	U	T	E				
E	R	R	S	S	S	B	E	N	E					
R	A	Y	O	N	A	N	A	D	I	R				
L	A	N	K	A	I	E	C	O	L	E				
E	T	A	S	R	L	S	H	A	L	L				
A	B	P	E	L	S	F	V							
D	A	B	B	E	D	O	O	L	I	T	E			
E	E	K	I	T	T	Y	S	R						
N	O	D	E	D	H	A	S	H	E	S				

QUICK

											E			
					G	R	E	E	N	T	E	A		
											I			
					S		E		V		O		I	
K	A	L	Y	A	N	J	I		N	I	N	A		
									R		F		O	
N	A	U	S	E	A		T	H	I	R	T	Y		
					S		B	U	S					
G	R	E	E	K		C	L	U	E	S				
					O									
D	I	M	P	L	E		E	Q	U	A	T	E		
L		I		L		T		T		E				
B	A	K	U		P	A	T	R	I	O	T	S		
					G		A		E		R		C	
G	L	E	A	N	I	N	G						O	

SUDOKU

5	9	4	7	8	3	6	1	2
7	1	2	4	6	5	9	3	8
3	6	8	9	2	1	5	7	4
2	4	7	8	9	6	1	5	3
6	5	1	2	3	7	4	8	9
8	3	9	5	1	4	7	2	6
9	7	3	1	4	8	2	6	5
1	2	6	3	5	9	8	4	7
4	8	5	6	7	2	3	9	1

MENSA PUZZLE
74 85. In the first row, the numbers outside the brackets are divided by 16 and the results placed inside the brackets. In the second row they are divided by 17. Therefore, in the third row they are divided by 18.

RIDDLER
CATASTROPHE;
CAT BURGLAR;
CATALOGUE

ALPHA TRIANGLE
H, He, Het, Etch, Chest, Chutes, Touches.

GO FIGURE
Easy
$2 + 6 + 6 - 8 = 6$
Medium
$2 \times 3 + 7 - 3 = 10$
Hard
$4 + 8 - 5 + 9 = 16$

LOOP

KAKURO

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Nicole excised from Tom's career montage- Guess who was snipped out of Tom Cruise's 10-minute career retrospective montage before the screening of his latest Top Gun film at the Cannes film fest? None other than his wife of 10 years and co-star in three of his films, Nicole Kidman

BangaloreMirror | 10
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Terrific trio

PeeCee cheers for Alia and Katrina ; shares how they were pitted against each other

Priyanka Chopra will soon be seen sharing screen space with Alia Bhatt and Katrina Kaif in the highly anticipated 'Jee Le Zara'. Helmed by Farhan Akhtar, ever since the announcement of the film, fans have been showering the trio with love, and are hopeful that the film will end up being a cult classic once it releases.

In an interview with a Hollywood news portal, Priyanka shared why she chose to say yes to the idea of working with her competitors in the same film. Calling her co-stars Katrina and Alia "two of the top actresses in the country", Priyanka said that the three of them wanted to do a movie together and even partner together to produce it. However, the idea was very different when they had started out, because they were often pitted against each other and the 'casting was very dependent on the lead actor of the movie, and it depends on who is the flavor at that time and that was a very unsettling feeling'.She shared how, this notion gave her career a very specific direction because of a specific uncomfortable feeling.

When asked about how she made it big in her film career, Priyanka shared, that she had often taken parts and roles in films that were female driven. She took movies, that were solely on her shoulders because 'it was very uncomfortable to have to be the flavor of the season and then not get cast.'

Meanwhile, on the work front, Priyanka is currently working on her Hollywood project 'Citadel'. It's an upcoming web series, helmed by Russo brothers of the 'Avengers' fame. Apart from Priyanka, this OTT show also features Richard Madden. She will begin working on 'Jee Le Zara' next year.

Outfits of the day

Check out how well-turned out were our loveable stars at Cannes festival on Day 2

Watch this story come alive by pointing your phone camera at the QR code

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Bangalore Mirror

TEMP Max 25 | Min 20 | Humidity 93% Partly cloudy sky with possibility of rain Sensex 52,792 | Nifty 15,809 | Gold 50,510 | Silver 65,000 | Dollar 77.72 | Euro 82.04 | GBP 96.35

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Sinking feeling returns

Stories of despair from areas where water entered homes, displaced people

Sridhar.Vivan
@timesgroup.com
TWEETS @sridharvMIRROR

Clockwise: Roads in Sai Baba Layout were still flooded on Thursday; BBMP workers hand over food and water to those trapped and pump out the water; CM Bommai on his rounds

For an elderly couple in Sai Baba Layout, Tuesday night was a night of terror. With their home flooded, the couple had to take refuge at their neighbours. It's been two days since, but they haven't been able to go back to their home as the water is yet to recede.

This was the condition of hundreds of Bengalureans on Thursday as the rain water had cut them off from their homes. "On Tuesday night, the water gushed into our homes and the force was such that we were scared that we may be washed away. We could not sleep the whole night. Fearing our lives, we came out of our homes and then took shelter in our neighbour's house," a senior citizen said. As they have not been able to return, they are unsure how many of their household items have been washed away.

For another middle-aged woman, the rain was an added woe. As she had to take her son to the hospital and all the streets were waterlogged, she had no option but to carry him on her back and wade through the water.

And police stations did not fare any better. The Vivek Nagar police station was inundated. Cops had a tough time clearing the water out. A few cops were seen sitting on the tables as the chairs were submerged. At many of the rain affected areas, many people who were staying on the ground floor had shifted to the first floor and above.

Meanwhile, Chief Minister Basavaraj Bommai continued his city tour for the second day. On Thursday, he chose to take a Volvo bus. People pleaded with folded hands asking the CM to come to their rescue. Later, speaking to the media, Bommai said that as long-term measures, the government would focus on desilting drains, developing valleys and removing encroachments besides enhancing the capacity of sewage treatment plants (STPs). The CM said that Bengaluru was witnessing unprecedented flooding due to heavy rainfall which was supposed to have been distributed across the month but poured in a matter of few hours. He also said that illegal structures along the main drains will be removed.

Rainfall across state

Traffic on the busy Bengaluru-Mysuru highway was affected as rain water flooded roads near Mandya district. The inflows into the reservoir have increased drastically. Yagachi reservoir in Hassan district is reaching the brim level and this becomes the first major reservoir to reach full reservoir level in pre-monsoon rainfall itself. As a result, the inflows into Hemavathi reservoir too got 7,441 cusecs (last year during the corresponding time, the inflow was 572 cusecs).

In the Cauvery catchment area, the inflows to the Harangi reservoir increased to 3,500 cusecs and the reservoir requires another eight feet of water storage to reach the brim level. KRS in Mandya district has seen a drastic rise in inflows which is quite unusual for this season. On Wednesday morning, the reservoir had 4,396 cusecs of water entering but the inflows rose to 15,000 cusecs (2,834 cusecs last year) by Thursday morning and the authorities expect it to touch 20,000 cusecs in a few days if the intensity of rainfall continues in the catchment area.

Meteorologist Sadananda Adiga said that widespread rainfall was recorded at most parts of the State including heavy rainfall. "Monsoon is advancing towards Kerala. Bengaluru will continue to get rainfall for the next few days due to the presence of an upper air cyclonic circulation over north Tamil Nadu and also a trough extending from Madhya Pradesh to Tamil Nadu. Orange alert and yellow alert has been sounded for many districts. Many places in the city may experience gusty winds as well." Srinivas Sagar and Jakkalamadagu reservoirs in the neighbouring Chikkaballapur district have already filled up with water being let out to Pinakini River.

BRT reserve's black leopard makes another cameo appearance

Wildlife experts got a happy surprise recently. The black leopard of the BRT Tiger Reserve has made its appearance again.

First documented in August 2020 in Forest Department's camera traps, it has reappeared in camera traps set by Dr Sanjay Gubbi and his team of Holématthi Nature Foundation in BRT Tiger Reserve.

This male black leopard was also camera trapped at the adjoining PG Palya Range of MM Hills Wildlife Sanctuary in December 2020. The individual has been identified by comparing the rosette patterns on its body and is estimated to be about six years old.

A narrow forest corridor of 1.6 km connects BRT Tiger Reserve with MM Hills Wildlife Sanctuary. The documentation of this black leopard in both these protected areas further highlights the importance that the corridor is critical and needs to be conserved.

The Kollegal-Hasanur road (State Highway-38) passes through this narrow wildlife corridor and the vehicular traffic poses a significant threat to the wildlife and obstructs the movement of large mammals.

The black leopard was caught once again on camera at BRT

Now spotted at all 5 tiger reserves

Black leopard, a melanistic variant of the normal coloured leopard, is now documented in all the five tiger reserves (Nagarahole, Bandipur, Bhadra, BRT and Kaali) of the state. It has also been recorded in Nugu Wildlife Sanctuary adjoining Bandipur Tiger Reserve. In addition, it has been recorded in some of the forests outside the protected areas including Honnavara, Udupi, Kundapura, and other areas.

In Karnataka, the highest density of black leopards is possibly in Kali Tiger Reserve in Uttara Kannada as several black leopards are captured in camera traps set by the forest department. The black leopard found in the Kakanakote area of Nagarahole Tiger Reserve has been a big tourist attraction. —BMB